

Technical Bulletin

FIELD PAINTING PRE-PAINTED GALVANIZED

Periodically the need arises to paint Sentrigard's prepainted galvanized sheets. This can be accomplished by following the procedure listed below.

A. Preparing the painted surface

In many cases, simply washing the building with plain water using hoses or pressure sprays will be adequate. In areas where heavy dirt deposits dull the surface, a solution of water and detergent (1/3 cup Tide per gallon of water for example) may be used. A soft bristle brush with a long handle may be useful. A clear water rinse should follow.

The appearance of rust "specks", the size of fine to coarse grains of sand, usually results from field operations, where metal filings are generated with power equipment, such as, cutting, grinding, or drilling. The metal chips which are hot when created will adhere to the coating surface and, in time, start to rust. It is also possible for, metal chips generated by a source not related to the buildings erection (such as airborne particles originating several miles away) to be deposited upon the sheets. To clean these rust spots, rub the sheets using a detergent solution and a nylon pad. The nylon pad will provide a sufficient amount of abrasion to loosen the chips, clean the rust, and will not scratch the surface of the paint. Be sure to thoroughly clean and remove the metal chips.

Mildew may occur in areas subject to high humidity, but is not normally a problem due to the high inherent mildew resistance of the baked finishes used. However, mildew can grow on dirt and spore deposits in some cases. To remove mildew along with the dirt, the following solution is recommended:

- 1/3 cup detergent (Tide for example)
- 2/3 cup tri-sodium phosphate (Soilex for example)
- 1 QT sodium hypochlorite 5% solution (Chlorox for example)
- 3 QT water

Solvents and abrasive type cleaners should be avoided. Caulking compounds, oil, grease, tars, wax and similar substances can be removed with mineral spirits applied only to the areas which are contaminated. Follow up the use of solvent with detergent cleaning and rinsing.

B. Refinishing the painted surface

Check for recoat ability of the unweathered paint surface by rubbing with a cloth saturated with xylol, or equivalent. If the film is partially removed as evidenced by paint on the cloth, primer is not required. If the surface is not softened by xylol, primer must be used. Weathered surfaces will soften and no primer is required.

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If a primer is required, apply a uniform thin film of good chromate type paint per label instructions. Permit this primer coat to dry. Apply a finish coat of any good exterior type paint by a brush, roller, or sprayer. Be sure that the finish coat is compatible with the primer used. Your paint supplier should be able to verify this for you.

For best results, do not; paint wet surfaces, paint surfaces when air temperature is below 55 degrees F or paint surfaces when air temperatures are extremely high.